

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 8, and 15 have been amended. Claims 1-20 are currently pending. This listing of claims will also replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for integrating security and user account data in a reporting system with at least one remote repository, comprising the steps of:
 - enabling a user to submit user credential input to a reporting system, wherein the reporting system comprises an On-Line Analytical Processing (OLAP) decision support system (DSS);
 - identifying an authentication process from a plurality of authentication processes comprising a standard-mode authentication, pass-through authentication, and anonymous authentication;
 - forwarding the user credential input to a first server; and
 - enabling the first server to apply the authentication process to authenticate the user against a remote repository using Open Database Connectivity (ODBC) for verifying the user credential input and to determine user access control data for identifying a least one user privilege for performing one or more actions and at least one user permission associated with one or more objects, wherein the remote repository is located within a second server, the second server being different from the first server.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising a step of importing user information from the remote repository.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the authentication process comprises Lightweight Directory Access Protocol.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the authentication process comprises an operating system authentication.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising a step of enabling the server to synchronize user account data with the user information from the remote repository.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the user is associated with a group of users wherein group information from the remote repository is imported.

7. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the user information comprises at least one or user permissions, privileges and access rights associated with the user.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A system for integrating security and user account data in a reporting system with at least one remote repository, comprising:

an input for enabling a user to submit user credential input to a reporting system, wherein the reporting system comprises an On-Line Analytical Processing (OLAP) decision support system (DSS);

an identification module for identifying an authentication process from a plurality of authentication processes comprising a standard-mode authentication, pass-through authentication, and anonymous authentication;

a forwarding module for forwarding the user credential input to a first server; and

a first server for applying the authentication process to authenticate the user against a remote repository using Open Database Connectivity (ODBC) for verifying the user credential input and to determine user access control data for identifying a least one user privilege for performing one or more actions and at least one user permission associated with one or more objects, wherein the remote repository is located within a second server, the second server being different from the first server.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8 further comprising an import module for importing user information from the remote repository.

10. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the authentication process comprises Lightweight Directory Access Protocol.

11. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the authentication process comprises an operating system authentication.

12. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein the server synchronizes user account data with the user information from the remote repository.

13. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the user is associated with a group of users wherein group information from the remote repository is imported.

14. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein the user information comprises at least one or user permissions, privileges and access rights associated with the user.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A processor-readable medium comprising ~~code~~instructions for execution by a processor to integrate security and user account data in a reporting system with at least one remote repository, the medium comprising:

~~code~~instructions for causing a processor to enable a user to submit user credential input to a reporting system, wherein the reporting system comprises an On-Line Analytical Processing (OLAP) decision support system (DSS);

~~code~~instructions for causing a processor to identify an authentication process from a plurality of authentication processes comprising a standard-mode authentication, pass-through authentication, and anonymous authentication;

~~code~~instructions for causing a processor to forward the user credential input to a first server; and

~~code~~instructions for causing a processor to enable the first server to apply the authentication process to authenticate the user against a remote repository using Open Database Connectivity

(ODBC) for verifying the user credential input and to determine user access control data for identifying a least one user privilege for performing one or more actions and at least one user permission associated with one or more objects, wherein the remote repository is located within a second server, the second server being different from the first server.

16. (Original) The medium of claim 15 further comprising code for causing a processor to import user information from the remote repository.

17. (Original) The medium of claim 15 wherein the authentication process comprises at least one of Lightweight Directory Access Protocol and operating system authentication.

18. (Original) The medium of claim 16 further comprising code for causing a processor to enable the server to synchronize user account data with the user information from the remote repository.

19. (Original) The medium of claim 15 wherein the user is associated with a group of users wherein group information from the remote repository is imported.

20. (Original) The medium of claim 16 wherein the user information comprises at least one or user permissions, privileges and access rights associated with the user.